

## BUILD SKILLS

### *from Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*

#### LITERARY ANALYSIS

A **sermon** is a speech given by a preacher in a house of worship. A sermon is a type of **oratory**, or formal public speaking. As you read, keep in mind these features of an oratory:

- It is persuasive.
- It appeals to the emotions of listeners.
- It addresses the needs of listeners.
- It calls for listeners to take action.
- It uses colorful language.

#### READING STRATEGY

**Context clues** help you understand the meanings of unfamiliar words. A word's context is its surrounding words, phrases, and sentences. Look for context clues to find the meaning of *abominable* in the following sentence:

You are ten thousand times more abominable in his [God's] eyes than the most hateful venomous serpent is in ours. . . .

The context clue here is in the comparison. Edwards says that the way a sinner looks in God's eyes is like the way a hateful snake looks in our eyes. From this clue, you can guess that *abominable* must be close in meaning to *horrible* or *disgusting*.

Use this chart to help you find the meaning of unfamiliar words.

